

LOCAL BOUNDARY COMMISSION
550 West 7th Ave. Suite 1770
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3510

RE: Boundary region - Copper River Basin

Gentlemen:

The residents of the Copper River Basin do not want nor can they support Organized Borough Government. The State of Alaska and the Copper River Basin residents will both be losers if we are forced to accept borough government.

Our roads are minimally maintained; our volunteer fire department is supported by local and Alyeska Pipeline donations as is our EMT services; law enforcement is practically non existent. Due to State regulations we no longer have a local hospital, only a Clinic. Just a month ago a doctor at this clinic said, "That's the risk we take by living out here".

The majority of our residents are living at or below the poverty level. Very few have running water but must haul it for miles from a community well. Many do not commercial power due to the excessive cost.

The State of Alaska collects revenue from the Pipeline, pump stations, etc. and uses these dollars to fund our local schools. These funds would be awarded to local government and used to fund the newly formed bureaucracy. An adequate tax base is not available to carry the burden of Borough Government.

An Organized Borough along with it's inherent taxes will not change the status of community services. We have not asked for Government services and we certainly are not getting any.

It would be unwise and extremely unfair to impose Borough Government on us without our consent.

Sincerely,

Lois Ann Thomas

Joseph Thomas

HC 60 Box 232B

Copper Center

Alaska 99573